

# ENDORSE WILSON AND GOV. STUART

Democrats Elect Delegates and Commend Administration of Two Distinguished Members—List of Delegates.

The Democrats of the county met here in mass-meeting Tuesday and selected delegates to the State convention to be held in Roanoke.

There was present a representative body of those who profess the Democratic faith from all sections of the county.

Democratic County Chairman O. E. Hopkins called the meeting to order, and made a short speech, outlining the reason for the meeting, and the great reforms the Democratic party has inaugurated and carried out during the past four years of Democratic rule in Washington.

Among the many great reforms he referred particularly to the currency legislation, in which Virginia's distinguished son Carter Glass, played a prominent part. Mr. Hopkins was full of the Democratic spirit of optimism, and his remarks were forceful and to the point.

"Whenever you work for the cause of Democracy," he said, "you are working for the welfare of the whole people. The Democrats have a great deal to be proud of—they have placed in the White House the greatest man that has occupied that exalted position."

Chairman Hopkins stated that the object of the meeting was to elect delegates to the Roanoke convention, where delegates to the National convention will be chosen. He stated that the county was entitled to 10 delegates—5 from Clear Fork District, three from Jeffersonville and 2 from Maiden Spring. Mr. Hopkins suggested that the number of delegates be doubled, giving each delegate a half a vote each. The Clear Fork District and Jeffersonville District decided to appoint doubly as many delegates as suggested. Clear Fork, therefore, selected twenty and Jeffersonville twelve.

Dr. L. J. Stump, of Pocahontas, was elected chairman of the meeting. In accepting the place, Dr. Stump recalled the fact that Pocahontas can be counted on for over a hundred Democratic votes, and that the Democrats of his town had never been found wanting, when election day comes around. Dr. Stump showed that he was familiar with procedure of conventions, and made an excellent presiding officer.

As is customary, the delegates were selected by districts, and were as follows:

**Clear Fork District**

M. C. Smith, E. V. Garrett, J. W. Shannon, George Harrison, E. King Crockett, R. B. Williamson, H. R. Stowers, J. W. Hicks, T. L. Shuffler, J. Ed. Buchanan, L. J. Stump, V. L. Sexton, O. B. Moore, I. H. Harry, J. M. Hale, George J. Cunningham, C. T. Jones, Frank St. Clair, Robert Tarter, Joe B. Meek.

**Jeffersonville District.**

George C. Peery, J. Ed. Peery, II. R. Hawthorne, P. J. Reynolds, G. W. Doak, O. E. Hopkins, D. W. Lynch, Col. Archie Thompson, A. B. Correll, C. P. Harman, D. B. Daniels, J. W. Whitley.

**Maiden Spring District.**

Samuel J. Thompson, Chapman H. Peery, Geo. W. Hurt, W. P. Boggess. A motion was made by G. W. Doak, and seconded that all Democrats of this county, who are in Roanoke in attendance upon the convention be recognized as delegates, with the privilege of casting their proportionate part of the vote of their magisterial district.

**Administration of Governor Stuart**  
Heartily Endorsed.

Judge S. C. Graham offered the following resolution endorsing the administration, which was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, that we heartily endorse the course and public administration of Governor Henry C. Stuart since he has occupied the exalted position of the foremost official of Virginia's Executive Department. He has been open and frank in all his dealings, private and public, since he has been Governor of Virginia, and when he knows the opinions of the people as expressed by the ballot box, he was courageously carried them out, and we feel assured that he will continue to do so. His personal frankness in all his official dealings is to be commended and by his public acts the people know and will continue to know that they can expect and will receive his well matured acts and best judgment for their welfare.

**Endorse Administration of President Wilson.**

Mr. V. L. Sexton, of Graham, read this resolution in which the administration of President Wilson was endorsed:

"He resolved, that we, the representatives of the Democratic party in mass-meeting assembled, here reaffirm our allegiance and devotion to the principles of Democratic government, formulated by Thomas Jefferson and enforced by a long and illustrious line of Democratic Presidents, reaching its zenith of virtue, strength and perfection under the undaunted and brilliant leadership of Woodrow Wilson, who by unselfish patriotism, profound wisdom and manly courage has placed the Democratic party in complete charge and control of our National Government, and who has, with equal ease and diplomacy, shielded and protected the people of these United States from the horrors and ravages of the greatest war the world has ever known, without sacrificing either principle or honor, and especially do we commend his course relative to the situation in Mexico, which, on account of its close proximity, conflicting internal interests, has proven the most delicate and difficult problem with which the administration has had to deal, but the successful termination of which, we firmly believe, will soon be assured by the capture and execution of that murdering bandit and wholesale murderer, Francisco Villa; and, believing that the

# continued peace and prosperity of this great nation is in jeopardy, by reason of the situation abroad, and believing in his unshakable patriotism and in his abundant faith in peace and pleasant feet in paths of peace and happiness, be it further resolved, that we, here and now, renew and reassert our allegiance, both to the party and its undaunted and matchless leader, and pledge ourselves to use all honorable means and influences to secure his nomination and re-election to the office of Chief Executive of this great nation."

**S. J. Thompson As Delegate to the Chicago Convention.**

Mr. John C. St. Clair proposed Mr. S. J. Thompson as a delegate for the Chicago convention from the Ninth district, which was adopted by the mass-meeting by unanimous vote.

**George R. McCall, and C. B. Neal, of Raven; W. P. Boggess, of Richlands; Chapman H. Peery, of Cedar Bluff; S. J. Thompson, of the Cove, and a number of other Democrats from Maiden Spring district were here Tuesday attending the Democratic mass-meeting.**

# CHURCH WORK ON CAVITT'S CREEK.

Editor the News: I shall inform you of our church work here at Cavitt's Creek and shall be glad indeed if you will please make this known to others through the Clinch Valley News.

The Sunday School of Cavitt's Creek Union church is preparing Easter exercises, to be rendered on Sunday morning, April 3rd, service beginning at 10 o'clock. Immediately after the the Sunday school services in the same church the Rev. W. W. Yost will preach an Easter sermon. Rev. Mr. Yost has been faithfully preaching in this church once each month for more than two years.

Very few have shown him their appreciation in the way of financial aid or even with their presence.

Our Sunday School has prevented from entire disbandment during the winter months by interest and attendance of only a very few faithful members.

May we not be disappointed in our hopes for a deeper interest shown and good attendance during the spring and summer months.

Everybody is invited to attend the Easter services in the church and we ask the members of the community and others who desire to bring a pound or more of groceries, etc., that we may give Brother Yost an interesting and profitable time.

In addition to this order there are now being built in the local shops eight mountain type passenger locomotives. The railways are confronted just now with an unprecedented rush of business, but the prices of material for rolling stock were never so high.

**MISSIONARY CIRCLE.**

The Young Ladies Missionary Circle of the Methodist church met with Miss Lucile Thompson, Tuesday, April 11th, at 2:30. An interesting program had been prepared by Miss Eva Steele, the President. The subject, "The School Brings Light; China, Mountain and Rural Work."

Miss Irene Peery gave an interesting talk on "School Life in China," followed by a piano solo by Miss Blanche Hurley. These young ladies are raising a fund for the Bennett School of London, Ky. After singing, "Blest be the Tie That Binds," Miss Thompson, the hostess, served a delicious salad course.

**FORMER TAZEWELL LADY DEAD IN IDAHO.**

An Idaho newspaper clipping brings news of the death of Mrs. Levi Groseclose, of tuberculosis. The sad event occurred recently, exact date not given, at her home in Julietta, Idaho. She leaves a husband and five children.

Deceased was 32 years old, a daughter of the late Wm. Carter, of Bluestone, Tazewell county. She married Levi Groseclose ten years ago, and moved to Idaho. The paper in Julietta speaks highly of her as a wife and mother. Her mother, Rebecca Carter, and three brothers and three sisters, survive all living in this county, except one sister, Mrs. Atkins who lives in Huntington, W. Va.

**NEWS NOTES OF POCAHONTAS.**

Pocahontas, Va., April 13—Aaron Long, a resident of Clark street, and who was operated on for appendicitis a few weeks ago, met with a serious accident in the mines this week. He is a coal contractor and at the time of the accident was on a mine car. In reaching his hand out for his dinner bucket he fell off the car and was either run over by the car or the car ran up on his body, causing severe injury about the chest and bruising on the head. He is said to be doing well.

Mr. W. A. Bishop, purchasing agent for the Pocahontas Consolidated Collieries Co., took a company of students from the school of Applied Science, at Cleveland, Ohio, through a portion of the coal field Saturday. They made an inspection of the mines here and at Switchback and then went to Bluestone Junction to look over the big power plant of the N. & W. at that place. There were 27 of the students.

Dr. L. J. Stump, Messrs. M. C. Smith, E. V. Garrett, O. B. Moore, Abe Hogan and Samuel L. Matz were Tazewell visitors Tuesday.

Miss Hattie Peirce, night operator at the central telephone office, has recovered from an attack of appendicitis, and resumed her duties, relieving Miss Deerie McCann, who has been filling her place while sick.

Mrs. Bertha Miller, widow of the late Joseph Miller, deceased, is visiting her son and daughter, in Pocahontas, Mr. and Mrs. Saul Miller, and Mrs. Nathan Marks.

**W. C. T. U.**

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union will meet Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock with Mrs. John Hawkins. All members are requested to be present.

**MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD.**

The Jeffersonville District School Board will meet Saturday, April 22, for the purpose of electing a principal and teachers for the Tazewell High School for next year.

**W. W. PEERY, Chairman.**  
**W. L. MOORE, Clerk.**

# SALOONS GIVE UP THE FIGHT

No Effort Will be Made to Contest Witten-Shumate Bill by Merchants of Pocahontas. April 29th Last Day.

A conference was held here last week between the saloon keepers of Pocahontas and legal advisers, and the conclusion was reached that it would be futile to attempt to contest legality of Witten-Shumate law in reference to the saloons closing on the 1st of May, and consequently the saloon keepers in Pocahontas are arranging to retire from business on the night of Saturday, April 29.

Tuesday was the last horse day in the town, the vendors of the beverage will have the privilege of taking orders here for shipment from Pocahontas.

# FALLS MILLS NEWS.

Falls Mills, April 12.—Mrs. E. A. Hill was shopping in Bluefield Tuesday.

The W. C. T. U. met at the church last Thursday.

Miss Ethel Canter is getting along nicely with her subscription school, with 34 scholars.

Mr. Henry Huggins, of Mayberry, W. Va., visited his family Saturday and Sunday.

D. D. Baker returned last week from a visit to LaFollette, Tenn. He reported his sister, Miss Maggie, married on the 23rd of March to a ranchman, Mr. Tolbert Bills, of Hansen, Idaho.

# HERE'S WILSON PROSPERITY NEWS FOR YOU.

A report that the Norfolk & Western had ordered thirty additional Mallet engines, to the thirty recently received, was confirmed yesterday, says the Roanoke Times of Tuesday. But it is said that the order will likely be held up for sometime on account of the high prices of material that goes into the construction of the engines.

In addition to this order there are now being built in the local shops eight mountain type passenger locomotives. The railways are confronted just now with an unprecedented rush of business, but the prices of material for rolling stock were never so high.

# THREE TO ONE.

(Communicated.)

In the paper read by Miss Bowen it was stated that Wm. Parsons was killed at the battle of Cotton Mountain. Reliable information is to the effect that he was killed at Cross Lanes, in West Virginia.—Clinch Valley News.

"It is presumed that our complimentary contemporary was also 'reliably' informed that young Parsons name was 'Pearsons,' that Cotton Hill is 'Cotton Mountain' and that the good people of Cross Lanes were separated from the Old Dominion during the Revolutionary war. The skirmishes at Cross Lanes and Cotton Hill were parts of a continuous engagement, and we cannot see that historical accuracy requires that the exact spot and date of young Parsons' demise be fixed. But if those interested think otherwise, we suggest that the Clinch Valley News be given the job of ferreting out the facts for the above paragraphs gives convincing proof that when the editor writes history, Froude and Fiske are crowded off the map."

—Tazewell Republican.

If the "Editor" was so far wrong why was "Cross Lanes" substituted for "Cotton Hill" in the manuscript before publication? It was stated by the "historian," "a young man of our town whose modesty prevents the mention of his name," that Mr. Parsons was killed at Cotton Hill. When read by Miss Bowen on Tuesday night the place was still Cotton Hill. On Wednesday the editor wrote his little squib above quoted, suggesting that Cross Lanes and not Cotton Hill was the place where Mr. Parsons was killed. On Saturday morning the Tazewell Republican bloomed out with the unsigned communication in which the editor of the Clinch Valley News was sarcastically placed in the same category with great historians, some of whom he was likely to crowd "off the map," by a writer whose "modesty" seems again to have prevented "the mention of his name." But, behold! and listen! When the historical article was published Cross Lanes was substituted for Cotton Hill, as the reporter of this paper suggested it should be. All the reporter was after was to "keep the record straight," and it appears that he has succeeded in straightening it out and in putting Cross Lanes "on the map." In the meantime what becomes of the criticism and dissertation communicated above quoted?

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**Du Pont Powder Mill at Nemours is Blown Up From Unknown Cause—Two Boys Killed While Sleeping.**

Three persons were killed, one perhaps fatally injured and two others less seriously hurt at the Nemours plant of the Du Pont Powder Company, eight miles from Bluefield, on Wednesday morning at 3:20 o'clock, when 4,000 kegs of black powder exploded. The damage to the plant is estimated at \$100,000. Howard Mathena, of Tip Top, who was on the night shift at the plant, was blown to pieces, and Calvin Butts, a watchman, was injured seriously.

Two Boys Killed While Sleeping.

Two boys, George and Roy Crawford, age about 12 and 14 years, asleep in their homes about a quarter of a mile from the explosion, were crushed to death by a large piece of concrete which was blown through the roof of the home by the force of the explosion. The two boys were students in the Nemours High School, of which Prof. Dwight Hurley, of this town, is principal.

A Bluefield special to the Roanoke Times says:

With a great roar, as if a mighty earthquake had broken loose, the big powder plant of the Du Pont De Nemours Powder Company at Nemours, W. Va., about eight miles west of this city, blew up this morning at 3:20, wrecking the entire plant which was a very valuable one, blowing an immense hole in the earth, and killing three people.

The shocks were felt in this city and houses rocked on their foundations, some windows being broken. Night watchman Calvin Butts is suffering with concussion of the brain but miraculously escaped with his life, as he was near the building at the time of the explosion. The buildings destroyed were the corn mill, the glazing and pressing mills, and the bomb proof rock house. The bomb proof building was full of powder. This building was on reinforced concrete with walls several feet in thickness and was built as substantial as it was possible to make it.

It was torn to pieces and one piece of concrete weighing about five tons was blown a distance of five hundred yards. The company houses were located some distance from the wrecked plant, and while they sustained some damage, no lives were lost and no serious damage done. An immense rock weighing three thousand pounds was thrown a distance of five hundred feet and completely buried in the ground. Two half-way houses were used to store the overflow from the other houses.

According to information from the foreman, three thousand kegs of powder blew up, worth \$150 a keg, bringing the total loss in powder and buildings destroyed up to \$100,000. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

Of the peculiar incidents and miracles escapes is recorded the fact that under a small house entirely destroyed, a litter of pups were located. They were left entirely unharmed. Close by also was a Ford automobile which came out unscathed, yet it was only fifteen feet from where hundreds of kegs of powder went up.

The scene around where the plant was located is one of desolation and nothing can be seen now of the former buildings but an immense hole in the ground.

The plant was built in 1904, and in 1910 a minor explosion occurred in which three persons were killed.

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**Mathena Buried at Tip Top Yesterday**

Tip Top, Va., April 13.—Howard Mathena, 24 years old, single, son of Stephen Mathena of this place, was blown to pieces in an explosion at the Dupont powder works at Nemours yesterday morning. Several other people in the vicinity were more or less injured. Two children of a Mr. Caldwell, about a mile away, were killed in their beds by a large piece of concrete, which was blown to the house by the explosion. The fragments of the body of Mathena are being prepared for interment by an undertaking firm in Bluefield, and will be buried here today. Mathena was the only man in the building at the time of the explosion. The Mathena family worked in the glazing room, and would have been relieved by another man in ten minutes of the time the explosion occurred. Two brothers-in-law, Will Tate and Ed Barrett, worked at the plant and had been there with their families for several years. It is understood that Mathena carried insurance, payable to his mother.

Parties from Tip Top, who were in the Falls Mills section yesterday report that the company will begin rebuilding the destroyed buildings at once, and expect to be ready to begin work again within the next four months.

Howard Mathena is survived by his father and mother and five sisters: Mrs. Jane Mathena, of Mud Fork; Mary Tate and Ella Barrett, of Nemours; Pansy Leedy, of Graham and Willie Claude Davison, of Richlands; three brothers, John, Tilly and Noah, of Tip Top. One brother died in a Welch hospital in February, 1915.

**Not Felt at Pocahontas.**

Pocahontas, April 13.—The blowing up of the powder mill at Nemours was close enough to Pocahontas to do considerable damage, but the mountain evidently broke the force of the explosion, for there was not a house damaged; in fact, a large majority of the people here knew nothing of it until after day, as it did not arouse them from sleep. It is not more than two miles and a quarter in a direct line from here to Nemours, but several mountains intervene. The first two explosions produced luminous flames and the light was sufficient to penetrate the rooms of the dwellings. The third was a blue light and entirely different from the others. The first explosions were decidedly

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The shocks were felt in this city and houses rocked on their foundations, some windows being broken. Night watchman Calvin Butts is suffering with concussion of the brain but miraculously escaped with his life, as he was near the building at the time of the explosion. The buildings destroyed were the corn mill, the glazing and pressing mills, and the bomb proof rock house. The bomb proof building was full of powder. This building was on reinforced concrete with walls several feet in thickness and was built as substantial as it was possible to make it.

It was torn to pieces and one piece of concrete weighing about five tons was blown a distance of five hundred yards. The company houses were located some distance from the wrecked plant, and while they sustained some damage, no lives were lost and no serious damage done. An immense rock weighing three thousand pounds was thrown a distance of five hundred feet and completely buried in the ground. Two half-way houses were used to store the overflow from the other houses.

According to information from the foreman, three thousand kegs of powder blew up, worth \$150 a keg, bringing the total loss in powder and buildings destroyed up to \$100,000. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

Of the peculiar incidents and miracles escapes is recorded the fact that under a small house entirely destroyed, a litter of pups were located. They were left entirely unharmed. Close by also was a Ford automobile which came out unscathed, yet it was only fifteen feet from where hundreds of kegs of powder went up.

The scene around where the plant was located is one of desolation and nothing can be seen now of the former buildings but an immense hole in the ground.

The plant was built in 1904, and in 1910 a minor explosion occurred in which three persons were killed.

Outside of this no serious explosions have occurred until today.

# THREE KILLED IN EXPLOSION

**Du Pont Powder Mill at Nemours is Blown Up From Unknown Cause—Two Boys Killed While Sleeping.**

Three persons were killed, one perhaps fatally injured and two others less seriously hurt at the Nemours plant of the Du Pont Powder Company, eight miles from Bluefield, on Wednesday morning at 3:20 o'clock, when 4,000 kegs of black powder exploded. The damage to the plant is estimated at \$100,000. Howard Mathena, of Tip Top, who was on the night shift at the plant, was blown to pieces, and Calvin Butts, a watchman, was injured seriously.

Two Boys Killed While Sleeping.

Two boys, George and Roy Crawford, age about 12 and 14 years, asleep in their homes about a quarter of a mile from the explosion, were crushed to death by a large piece of concrete which was blown through the roof of the home by the force of the explosion. The two boys were students in the Nemours High School, of which Prof. Dwight Hurley, of this town, is principal.

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